When a corresondent drew Spokesman's attention to the fact that the news reports quote the Pakistani Foreign Secretary, Spokesman clarified that the Pakistani Foreign Secretary was not present at the said talks. The joint press statement was drafted by the two Defence Secretaries and "I think we should go by that".

When asked to clarify what the situation in Siachen had been before 1972, Spokesman said "I have nothing further to clarify on that. This matter is being looked into by both the Army Commanders and it would be most accurate to go at present by the joint press statement. The statement indicates an agreed time frame and also carries the assurance that the two Defence Secretaries will meet again at Delhi, in the near future." He drew attention to the fact that there is absolutely no indication of any agreement or disagreement regarding pre-1972 positions in Siachen, in the joint press statement.

Spokesman refused to comment when one Correspondent asked whether the Pakistan Foreign Secretary was indulging in disinformation. He also did not agree with a correspondent's suggestion that the Simla Agreement would go the way of the Sri Lankan accord and would not be binding on both countries. Spokesman clarified that both governments were set on resolving their problems through a process of negotiation and friendship.

Development of pilotless target Aircraft

734. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had sanctioned the development of a pilotless target aircraft (PTA) in 1980;

(b) whether the project was targetted to be completed within a five-year time frame;

(c) whether the project has been completed; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The development of PTA is expected to be completed in Dec. 1990.

(d) Complexities involved in emerging high technologies required for development of PTA.

Successful launch of Agni Missile

735. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian scientists have successfully launched the 'Agni' missile on May, 22, 1989.

(b) whether the Prime Minister has accused some political parties for criticising the launching of the 'Agni'; and

(c) if so, the names of the parties and persons who had criticised the launching ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Prime Minister had made references to the Janatar Dal (earlier referred to as the Janata Party). He did not name any individual.